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THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

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HE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

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gressive Farmer,	State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.
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e People's Paper,	Charlotte, N. C.
e Vestibule,	Concord, N. C.
e Plow-Boy.	Wadesboro, N. C.
rolina Watchman,	Salisbury, N. C.

Each of the above-named papers are uested to keep the list standing on e first page and add others, provided ey are duly elected. Any paper failg to advocate the Ocala platform will dropped from the list promptly. Our ople can now see what papers are olished in their interest.

AGRICULTURE.

Do not expect to grow healthful trees r a long number of years on the same ot of ground, without adding some rtility to the soil.

The superiority of beef breeds of anals appears to be largely due to their ndency to mature early, and to pro ice beef of high quality.

Quite as important as the farmer's ergy and muscle are his wife's brains d good sense. Many a stupid farmer s been pushed into success by a mart, ambitious wife.

Combine bee keeping with fruit owing, and you can more easily pro ire two crops from the same land; d this double cropping requires no ditional fertilizing, is not exhaustive, mands no extra plowing or cultivaon. Few crops ask so little outlay as e honey crop.

When the farmer has the product of e corn field in his silo he holds the ork of feeding in the palm of his hand, it were It certainly seems that the advantages and impracticable feares of the fodder-feeding question on large scale are by the silo almost holly overcome.

To be effective mineral manures for ring and summer crops must be apied early. They need some of the ring rains to dissolve the fertilizer so at the plant roots can make use of it. sides, as weather and soil become arm and dry there is less need of the rtilizer, as the soil itself releases more its own fertility under such conditons.

One million dozen eggs were imrted into the United States last year. is would indicate that the American n is not doing her duty, or rather at the owners of the American hen e not feeding her up to the point here she can do her duty. Hens ust have a variety of feed or they will not lay half as many eggs as they l under proper conditions.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO FARMERS.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.

We, members of the Border Alliance, were so well pleased with the gentleman who made us the speech of welcome in behalf of the citizens of Oxford, that we voted him a judge. Where is he now? A paid attorney for the Dukes; at least he resigned his judgeship for that purpose.

A small crop of tobacco will be planted in Alamance. But the destruction of the tobacco crops in Cuba and the Phillipine Islands may somewhat stimulate the market and cause a larger planting than is now intended, as plants are plentiful.

The tobacco market now shows a slight upward tendency, the weed selling for double what it did a few weeks ago. Is there any other commodity that varies so much in price? Can any means be devised to make the tobacco market more steady? If any one knows of any plan, means or way, let us hear from them through THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

The late cold spell has nearly destroyed the fruit crop in Alamance. Few cherries, peaches, pears or plums are left. A few apples still remain, but the shedding, or dropping in May will be great. The grape crop is also injured. Beans and early corn was killed to the ground in many places. Farmers are well advanced in corn planting. A large crop of sorghum will be planted and a greater effort than usual made to raise all home supplies. The prospects for a good crop of wheat and oats is unusually fine.

Chicken cholera in this section has prevailed to some extent. It was caused by neglecting the roosts, letting the hens become infested with vermin (lice and red mites), and feeding upon whole corn. To prevent cholera, provide dry roosts, keep them clean from the droppings, oil the roosting poles with kerosene. Whitewash the hen houses, place a leaf of tobacco in the bottom of each nest. This will prevent lice. To cure cholera, kill all the fowls, either chickens, turkeys or guinea fowls that will not eat their food, and either burn their dead bodies up or bury them deeply in the ground. Separate all the sick ones from those that are well. Give them a variety of food, mixed with common salts, and a small quantity of carbolic acid in their drinking water, and provide plenty of coarse sand or gravel for their walks. Do this and some of your chickens that are sick may get well, and the disease by care may be eliminated from your fowls. My readers will please excuse my again bringing to this notice the simple remedy of using salts (for I claim the credit of first bringing it to the notice of the public through the columns of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER several years ago (some time prior to the experiments made at the Agricultural Station). B. F. WHITE.

Permanent improvement of the farm is half the profit. So long as the farm is growing better, the owner need not complain, even though his bank account fails to grow. In the long run it will pay better to neglect the bank account than the farm. When farm and stock are at their best, then it is soon enough to invest the surplus elsewhere

DINGLEY AND THE FARMER.

The humorous element in the Dingley tariff bill now being considered by the United States Senate is now related perhaps more directly to the farmer than to any other class for it is a palpable attempt to curry favor with the agriculturist without helping him or taking away from any other portion of the community, a thing which cannot be said of the bill in its relation to the manufacturer. Indeed, the Dingley bill, in so far as it may affect the American farmer helpfully is so much cheap buncombe, and that the agricultural classes will be taken in by so palpable a trick is not to be believed for a moment. In view of the plain and unmistakable statement of the granges of the country to the effect that an import tariff, high or low, could not benefit the farmer, Mr. Dingley's insistance upon his ill conceived measure is hardly consistent with his professions.

A glance at the statement of exports and imports issued by the Treasury Department indicates how one sided an affair the high duty tariff is. Mr. Dingley, with a great flourish of trumpets, proclaiming his undying loyalty to the American farmer, puts a duty of 30 cents a bushel on barley, to protect the farmer from the cheap European barley. But last year the American farmer exported 7,680,331 bushels of barley, while but 837,384 bushels were imported. On corn Mr. Dingley favors a tariff of 15 cents a bushel. How this will swell the coffers of the farmer is shown by the fact that in 1896 4 338 bushels were imported, while we sent out to the hungry world 99,992,835 bushels! And oats must be protected, too, or the first thing we know we shall be feeding our live stock on stuff grown by those dreaded foreign paupers. Last year we were overwhelmed with importations, amounting to 47,506 bushels, while we exported the insignificant bagatelle of 13,012,590 bushels? And rye: we are menaced with a repetition of last year's awful experience, when 154 bushels of rye were shipped into country while the unconscious victims slept. But Mr. Dingley hastens to the rescue with a tariff of 10 cents a bushel on rye, so that the American farmer, who exported 988,466 bushels, may not again be in danger of complete commercial annihilation!

Nor is the dairy man forgotten. There were exported 19 373,913 pounds of butter last year, and foreigners succeeded in getting into this country 52,067 pounds of the product of their pauper cows. Hereafter 6 cents a pound will serve to check this disastrous flood.

To summarize: the total value of imports for 1896 of barley, corn, oats, wheat, rye, potatoes, flour and butter aggregated $1,861,553, while the exports foot up the magnificent total of $139,923,652. With exports exceeding imports by nearly 100 times, how can an import duty help the farmer? And if this measure succeed in creating a spirit of retaliation which will result in lessening the export trade, who may estimate the injury it may do to our agricultural interests!—The Farmer's Voice.

The cows, pigs, and hens should clothe the family and pay taxes and grocery bills; also, in this way a man may begin on a run-down farm, and by a wise and careful use of the barn manure, helped out by a little fertilizer, can keep the farm continually improving. Let him be sure his stock is good stock.

IMPROVING THE SOIL.

A writer in an exchange speaks very decidedly against buying poor land, and this is all right if good soil is in reach of the man's pocketbook; but the satisfaction of owning the soil and being out of debt will compensate a man for a good deal of labor, patience and study in improving poor soil. There is no soil upon which anything has ever grown, that cannot be made again productive.

Much judgment must be used in such cases. The man must throw aside the idea that the farm on which he was raised or has worked for years is the standard and that soil which will not produce the same crops with the same treatment is poor soil.

Any man should be able to tell whether or not the soil needed draining, and if it does the operation is very simple and less expensive than clearing the rocks from some fields. In some cases soils that will produce nothing of value are fitted for almost any crop by simply taking out the surplus water. In direct contrast with these we find dry, sandy areas some of which have been brought as near to ruin as human ingenuity could place them, by deep plowing when that was believed to be the cure for all deficiencies. What such soils need is shallow plowing and the soil below where the plow goes kept as hard as can be. A dressing of clay, fine loam or coal ashes would improve the texture of such soil, but where this is too expensive any kind of manure may be plowed in and turnips, clover, rye or any other crop that will grow there sown and fed off by sheep or young stock. This method will leave the fertility on the field, pack the soil down and fill it with vegetable matter.

The avidity with which laying hens will eat crushed egg shells shows how necessary they are in the hen's economy for egg production. There is no better way to supply lime required for egg shells than this. The shells in the gizzard also act as grit, enabling it to digest food. The only care in feeding is to crush the shell thoroughly, so that its likeness to the egg may not be seen. Where egg shells are thrown out without being crushed, the fowls soon learn the habit of picking at the shells on eggs, and from this they quickly become egg eaters, a habit which once formed is never forgotten.

THREE SUCCESSFUL FARMERS.

"Three of the best farmers in Illinois" says the Chicago Times-Herald, "are women, and they own three of the finest farms in the state. They are the Misses Gillett—Nina, Amy, and Jesse—each of whom owns and manages a farm six times as large as Lincoln Park, and their farms are said to be the largest operated by unmarried girls. For miles around Elkhart stretch the lands which they manage, and although by their efforts the work has been so well systematized that they are able to spend a few months each year in Europe, California, or Mexico, nothing of any consequence is done without their approval and advice.

"The fact that their farms are so good is due in great part to the personal attention which they give to their lands. Each is a practical agriculturist, and by their efforts they have greatly increased the value of their lands since they first assumed personal direction of them. During the spring and early summer they are on their farms with no thought of Paris, thinking only of their crops. Up and at work, sometimes as early as five o'clock in the morning, few would recognize the dashing belles of London, Paris, or Washington in the farmers who ride thirty or forty miles a day over their farms inspecting the work of their men and giving advice and directions."

GROWING FIELD PEAS.

Considering the ease and certainty with which the pea crop may be grown, it is surprising that it is not more sown than it is. Field peas will yield 20 to 30 bushels per acre on good land. If grown with oats, so as to keep the vines from falling on the ground and mildewing, the forage makes a valuable feed for cows, sheep or horses in winter. The pea straw is very rich in nitrogenous matter, thus making a good and cheap supplementary food with corn stalks, either cured and dried or made into silage. The pea grain is the best early feed for hogs. It is the best of all grains to promote growth of frame, as the pea contains both lime and nitrogenous or muscle forming matter. The peas are often sown with the expectation that they will be harvested by hogs. This may seem to be wasteful, as more or less of the peas will be trodden into the soft soil. But if the hogs are left with their noses free to root very few peas will escape their search. The pea crop to be thus harvested is especially adapted to growing in orchards, as the nitrogenous fertility will constantly increase under this management. The soil will also be kept loose so that it will fill with moisture, and the pea vines in summer will shade the soil and prevent evaporation, thus retaining water that the soil has received in winter.

HORTICULTURE

THE SAN JOSE SCALE.

There are many species of scale insects which infest fruit and ornamental plants to a greater or less extent, but of all those known to the entomologist at the present time, the San Jose (*Aspidiotus perniciosus*, Comstock), is the most to be dreaded on account of its destructive character, the rapidity with which it increases and the difficulty with which it may be eradicated when once it has become established.

It is only a few years since this pest was introduced into some of the nurseries of the eastern States from California, through the carelessness of one or two nurserymen in not thoroughly disinfecting the stock sent out. From these nurseries it has been widely scattered, and recent investigations have shown that it is already present in a number of orchards in Ohio and Illinois, brought there by shipments of trees from these infested nurseries. It has been found in some of the southern Indiana counties, and unless vigorous measures are adopted very soon, the loss to the fruit growers of this state from this cause must necessarily be very great. Judging from the many specimens of scale infested branches received by the experiment station during the past season, it is very evident that little is known concerning this scale by the fruit growers of Indiana in general.

The San Jose scale is much smaller and of a difierent shape, the female being nearly circular in outline, than the oyster shell or bark louse, while the others mentioned are readily distinguished by the naked eye.

As already stated, this pest becomes distributed by means of nursery stock which is sent from one State or locality to another. It is also spread locally by being carried by the wind and on the feet of birds, etc, so that if but a single tree is infested at the time of planting, so great is its reproductive power, it may soon spread until the entire orchard is infested. It has been ascertained that the progeny of a single female, during a single season, may amount to more than three billions of individuals.

Thus it will be seen that the greatest care should be exercised in this matter, not only by the nurserymen, but by each individual planter.

As a further precaution and as a matter of self protection, Indiana should follow the example of Onio and Illinois in passing a law, making the sale or offering for sale, or harboring trees or plants infested with this or other noxious insects a misdemeanor punishable by a suitable fine. It should then be placed in the hands of a competent entomologist who will see that the law is enforced. JAMES TROOP.

Purdue University Station.

MISSOURI FRUIT PRODUCTION.

Statement showing the number of acres in apple and peach orchards, and estimated production of fruit for the year 1897, in the great fruit growing district of South Missouri, on the line of the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Memphis Railroad, Springfield to Thayer, inclusive:

County.	Acres in Apple Trees.	Acres in Peach Trees.	Acres in Bearing. Apple Trees.	Acres in Bearing. Peach Trees.	Estimated Apple Crop. Barrels.	Estimated Peach Crop. Bushels.
Greene.....	8 000	600	4 000	500	80 000	37,000
Webster...	7 000	500	3 000	100	60 000	7,800
Wright.....	4 000	1,800	3 000	900	70 000	67,500
Texas.....	6,500	2,000	4 000	1 000	80 000	112 500
Howell.....	8 000	3,000	5 000	2,000	100 000	150,000
Oregon.....	1,000	1 000	730	500	15,000	37 500
Totals....	34,330	8,600	30 250	5,000	405 000	412,500

THE ORCHARD SITE.

The location of the orchard is always an important item. Of course, it must be chosen from such land as one has, and while it may not be the best, yet a little care in selecting and planning may at least prevent it from being the worst.

One item that always should be looked after is prevention from the prevailing winds, as exposure to hard winds often injures the beeswax in the spring, and in a measure prevents the setting of fruit; and again, in the fall, winds do considerable damage by blowing off the fruit or breaking down the heavily loaded limbs. In fact, in very many cases rather than allow an orchard to grow in an exposed situation, in a majority of cases it will be best to plant a row of trees especially as a protection from the north and west winds. In some localities a northern exposure is considered best, as the blossoming is retarded to some extent at least in the spring, and the danger from late spring frost is considerably reduced.

One item that should always be considered is good drainage. There are few, if any, varieties that do well in what may be termed a wet soil, and in some way good drainage should always be provided.

When it can be done, it is best to select a site a little back from the public road, as after the orchard comes into bearing more or less loss will be occasioned by passers by. Not so much in the amount of fruit they will eat or carry away, but to the fence in coming in and going out, and the trees and fruit in knocking off particular specimens they may take a fancy to. When it can be secured a deep soil is always preferable, as in nearly or quite all cases trees growing in a deep soil suffer less from climate in summer. A light, clayey loam with some lime in it makes a good soil for nearly or quite all kinds of fruits, although a good loamy soil, if reasonably rich, give good results.

The February report of the Department of Agriculture, makes the number of milch cows 13,942,000, valued at $23 16, and of other cattle, 30,509,000, of average value of $16 54. The total is less, by more than five million, than was reported in the census made six years ago.

POULTRY YARD

THE VALUE OF GREEN FOOD.

Birds are now running out and the close confinement of the long winter months is at an end. Unless precautions were taken last fall to sow your yards with rye, they will look from morning until night for what they most need, and that is green food. Bare yards are not inviting at any season, and more especially is this true in these early spring days.

Too much grain, too much meal and too much of all fattening foods have been given during the cold months. A little extra green food is what your layers need, and also what your males need to make them more vigorous and put them in better general health. Search your cellars for what you may have left over—potatoes, apples, turnips, cabbage, anything that is green will be most acceptable to your feathered pets.—Country Gentleman.

We once knew a good farmer who when he found a toad on any part of his farm, took pains to catch it and remove it to his garden. He said that in this way his garden became so stocked with toads that they destroyed thousands of insects with no cost or trouble to himself. It is a very interesting sight to see the toad helping himself to insects. Sluggish as he appears whenever an insect comes within reach of his long tongue, it is darted out and that insect is seen no more. They will eat potato bug larva, but we never saw them attack the malodorous bugs that attack melons, squashes and cucumbers.

A MAMMOTH INCUBATOR.

On the duck farm of Mr. Wm. H. Truslow, at Stroudsburg, Pa., there is in operation an incubator that has a capacity of 50,000 hen eggs, or 40,000 duck eggs. Mr. Truslow runs a duck farm, and therefore this incubator is exclusively devoted to hatching ducks. It is arranged to maintain the temperature at about 101 deg. F., and this is done with greater certainty and regularity than has ever before been attained. This mammoth incubator is patented by Mr. Cyphers and is intended to enable the production of enormous quantities of poultry with a degree of expense smaller than has hitherto been possible.

Very few persons have any idea of the enormous possibilites that lie in the direction of poultry production in the United States, and especially in these Southern States. We shall get to it after a while, when we begin to think a little less of cotton, cane and rice a little more of the good things to eat that we can produce on our own farms. The people of the other States are already appreciating this and are very willing to take the proceeds of our cotton crops and of our cane crops for the canned goods that they are shipping in to us, by the car load and by the train load, every day.—Southern Farmer.

It is a general rule in farming that the same crop should never be grown on land two years in succession. With most crops exhaustion of the kinds of plant food required by the crop makes this rule imperative. The second crop is so far inferior that it does not yield a profit. But corn derives its nutrition so largely from the air that it can be grown in succession so far as the supply of plant food is concerned. But it is found in the West where this policy has been mostly practiced that the smut on stalks and ears is so greatly increased as in some cases to take one-fifth more of the crop. The smut spores live in the soil through the winter, and are ready to attack the corn very early if planted on the ground where corn was grown the year before.

RESOLUTION.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C.,
April 30, 1897.

At a call meeting of the Moore County Farmers' Alliance, which met on March 4th, the following resolution was adopted, viz:

WHEREAS, The shoe factory at Hillsboro, a project of the State Alliance, is now idle for the want of the required funds to carry on the busines; and, whereas, the sum of $10,000 still remains in the hands of our Trustee of the Business Agency fund, and we see no disadvantage in using said fund for running the shoe factory, therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend that our State Executive Committee draw the necessary funds to start the factory without delay. J. M. TYSON,
[SEAL] Secretary-Treasurer.